# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COAL
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2114
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2016
Fire in Coal Mines
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**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware that people have been facing the problems for a long time due to fire in the coal mines in Jharkhand: and
(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made so for to quench fire in these coal mines?

## Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b):Un-scientific, unsystematic and illegal mining in pre-nationalized period are the primary causes of underground mine fire. A Master Plan was approved by Government of India to deal with the problems of fire and subsidence and related rehabilitation covering the areas under Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.(BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Ltd.(ECL) in 2009 for implementation of the same in the phase manner.

Various measures to deal with fire such as blanketing, isolation of fire areas, nitrogen flushing etc. were taken. Finally, excavation method has been resorted to by deploying hired HEMM at various mines of BCCL successfully, resulting in reduction of fire area.

The coal mine fire survey/ study was instituted by BCCL through National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, Department of Space, Hyderabad in August, 2013 for delineation of surface coal fires in Jharia Coalfield. NRSC has submitted their report in April" 2014, in which they have concluded that the present fire area in the coalfield is only 2.18 sq.km.which includes both over burden dump fire and active fire. The reduced fire area is against 8.9 sq.km total surface area affected by fire.
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